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MAR 02 2009

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

SOKHOM PICH; SENGLEAP SOK,

Petitioners,

v.

ERIC H. HOLDER, Jr., Attorney General,

Respondent.

No. 05-74484

Agency Nos. A077-431-876 A072-403-679

MEMORANDUM*

On Petition for Review of an Order of the Board of Immigration Appeals

Submitted Februrary 18, 2009**

Before: BEEZER, FERNANDEZ, and W. FLETCHER, Circuit Judges.

Sokhom Pich and Sengleap Sok, natives and citizens of Cambodia, petition for review of the Board of Immigration Appeals' order dismissing their appeal from an immigration judge's decision denying their application for asylum,

^{*} This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by 9th Cir. R. 36-3.

The panel unanimously finds this case suitable for decision without oral argument. See Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

withholding of removal, and protection under the Convention Against Torture ("CAT"). We have jurisdiction under 8 U.S.C. § 1252. Reviewing for substantial evidence, *Kaur v. Gonzales*, 418 F.3d 1061, 1064 (9th Cir. 2005), we deny the petition for review.

Substantial evidence supports the agency's adverse credibility determination where the discrepancies between petitioners' asylum application and Pich's testimony and declaration go to the heart of their claim. *See Singh v. Gonzales*, 439 F.3d 1100, 1108 (9th Cir. 2006) (an adverse credibility ground "goes to the heart of a claim if it concerns events central to petitioner's version of why he was persecuted and fled"). Accordingly, their asylum and withholding of removal claims fail. *See Alvarez-Santos v. INS*, 332 F.3d 1245, 1254-55 (9th Cir. 2003).

Substantial evidence supports the agency's denial of CAT relief because petitioners failed to establish that it is more likely than not that they would be tortured if removed to Cambodia. *See Malhi v. INS*, 336 F.3d 989, 993 (9th Cir. 2003).

PETITION FOR REVIEW DENIED.

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